

RUSSIANS TO ATTACK AGAIN.

KUROPAKIN PLANNING NEW ASSAULT, TOKIO HEARS.

Lull in the fighting on the Sha River, though armies are but 600 metres apart—Sha River flooded—Japs are using mortars to dislodge the enemy.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

TOKIO, Oct. 20.—It is stated that the Russian and Japanese forces on the Mukden road, north of Shahoju, a town about midway between Yantai and Mukden, are separated by a distance of only about 600 metres, while at Pingiatso, some fifteen miles east of Yantai, a large Russian force is concentrated.

The Russians are fortifying every available position between the Sha and Hun rivers, and are evidently preparing to oppose any further Japanese advance northward.

It is believed here that the disposition of Gen. Kuropakin's forces indicates an intention on his part to resume the offensive. A despatch from the Japanese headquarters in Manchuria, dated yesterday, gives a statement of the situation, showing that the fighting has stopped, except for an occasional exchange of shells. It mentions detached movements of the enemy, which are being watched.

MUKDEN, Oct. 20.—The Sha River, which now divides the Russian and Japanese armies, has been flooded by the rains. There being no bridges left, the river can be crossed only by means of pontoons.

The Russians hold a good position on the left bank, occupying a high hill overlooking the river. The Japanese have been unable to dislodge the Russians. The Russian right is using mortars in an attempt to drive out the Japanese, who are occupying a hill on the plain.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 20.—Gen. Sakharov reports that no serious fighting took place yesterday. A force of cavalry pursuing some Japanese troops met a large body of Japanese. These troops were armed with Maxim's, and the Russians returned.

The reports from the front to-day are that the weather is clear and cold and that the roads are drying. Correspondents say that the hostile armies are in contact along the whole front. A continuation of the fighting is expected.

LONDON, Oct. 20.—A correspondent attached to the headquarters of Gen. Oku telegraphs, by way of Tientsin, Tuesday, that last week's battle was the heaviest blow yet struck at the Russians, so far as losses are concerned.

The Japanese left army (Gen. Oku's) buried 4,000 Russians. As a moderate estimate the Russian casualties numbered 25,000. The Japanese losses were 8,000.

DRIVE BACK THE DESTROYERS.

Japanese Vessels Repulse Squad From Port Arthur Scudrons.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

CHEFOO, Oct. 20.—It is learned from a Chinese source that since Oct. 8 the Japanese have captured, after considerable fighting, several small positions at Port Arthur and the railway bridge near Erlingshan, thereby securing better points from which to attack Erlingshan.

The Russians are in complete possession of the main forts, which, however, are all commanded from the positions occupied by the Japanese, who are increasing their bombardment. The garrison is reserving its heavy artillery fire.

Nine torpedo boat destroyers left the harbor on Oct. 12 and steamed toward Shaopingtao, bombarding the Japanese shore. Four Japanese torpedo boat destroyers hastened to attack the boats making the sortie, but the latter retired. The Japanese pursued them until they were in the mine area.

One of the Japanese vessels while returning from the chase struck a mine and was severely damaged. She succeeded in reaching Dalny, where she is being repaired.

The garrison at Port Arthur lack winter clothing and shoes. Flour is plentiful. Mules, donkeys and horses are still being slaughtered for food.

Chinese who have arrived here from Dalny report that Japanese reinforcements are arriving there daily. The Japanese have built immense warehouses, in which there are already supplies sufficient to last until spring.

Similar preparations are being made at Newchwang. When they are completed sixty transports will be free to perform other work.

READY AT VLADIVOSTOK.

Russians Strengthen Their Defences—Building a Telegraph Line.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

TOKIO, Oct. 20.—The Kokumin reports that no Russian defences have been found in the region of Tamangang, but that the troops at Posset Bay have been recently reinforced. The Russians are building barracks at Hoiyong, on the Manchurian frontier, and a telegraph line from Vladivostok to Cuchong, 100 miles north of Gensan, and a hospital at Kyongkyong, 40 miles further north. The defences at Vladivostok are being extended.

On Monday last Koreans at Masanpo attacked the Japanese there, wounding four.

UNMOVED BY BALISTIC FLEET.

Japan Doesn't Think That There'll Be Much Trouble From It.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

TOKIO, Oct. 20.—All news concerning the movements of the Russian Baltic fleet is received with interest here, but with scarcely any excitement, because it is still doubted if it is really bound for the Far East.

The Jiji Shempo and the Asahi, commenting upon the reported sailing of the fleet, say that the Japanese Navy will be delighted to welcome Russia's new fleet, which it will be quite strong enough to encounter, even supposing that Port Arthur is still unscathed when the Russians arrive.

The chief interest in the voyage of the fleet consists in the opportunity it will afford for accurately judging the attitude of the neutral Powers, whose territories the fleet will pass on its way.

RUSSIA TO BLAME FOR WAR.

"Japan Mail" Says the Tokio Cabinet Would Have Acquired in Peace.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

TOKIO, Oct. 20.—The Japan Mail, commenting on the report from London that it is the opinion there that the civilized world should protest against the con-

RUSSIAN PANAMA LETTER.

SPRUNG IN CARNEGIE HALL AS DEMOCRATIC SURPRISE.

Published in Part a Year Ago—Senator Culberson of Texas Says the "Incubatory" Parts Were Left Out Then, and Pitches Into President About Panama.

A "surprise" relating to President Roosevelt's attitude in the Panama secession had been promised at the Reform Club's Parker meeting in Carnegie Hall last night. It proved to be this letter, which was described as "partly published before" and written by President Roosevelt.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 20.—In an interview Prince Khilkoff, Minister of Railway Communications, declares that the unfavorable reports circulated about the condition of the railroad around Lake Balkal are unfounded. He admits that the pioneer train took four days to cover thirteen miles, but asserts that since then the trains have been running regularly at the rate of thirteen miles an hour.

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HAY GETS JAPAN'S PROTEST.

Sends to St. Petersburg the Complaint of Russian Bad Faith.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—By direction of his Government, Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister, to-day laid before Secretary Hay a protest against an alleged unlawful use of Chinese costumes by Russian troops.

Mr. Takahira, who called personally on Mr. Hay, requested that the protest be laid before the Russian Government through the Japanese Ambassador in St. Petersburg, who is representing Japanese interests in the czar's possessions for the period of the war. This request was promptly complied with, the protest being telegraphed to the United States Embassy in the Russian capital.

It is contended by the Japanese that on Oct. 4 Japanese forces on the Mukden road were attacked by soldiers of the Russian Third Regiment of sharpshooters wearing Chinese costumes, and that other misuse of the native dress was made by the Russians in the campaign. Mr. Takahira contended that Russians so costumed in battle were guilty of an unlawful act and could be punished as offenders against the laws of war and international usage.

Jap Victories Good for U. S.

The annual meeting of the American Asiatic Association was held in the committee room of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday. These officers were elected: President, Elias D. Webb, treasurer, Joseph R. Patterson, secretary, John F. Ford.

The sentiment of the meeting was that every advantage gained by the Japanese in the war was in the interest of the commerce and industry of this country.

DUMONT AND BARRETT REMOVED.

Capt. Seeley of Boston and C. W. Mercereau of This City Take Their Places.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—James H. Dumont and Thomas H. Barrett, local inspectors at the port of New York, were today removed from the steamboat inspection service by order of Secretary Metcalf of the Department of Commerce and Labor.

The order of dismissal was accompanied by the announcement that the vacancies thus created have been filled by the appointment of Capt. Henry N. Seeley, now inspector of hulls in Boston, who will take Gen. Dumont's place, and Theodore G. M. Mercereau, now assistant inspector of hulls in New York, who will succeed Barrett.

This is the second step taken by the Administration in following the report of the Slocum commission. When Robert's Rodie was removed as supervising inspector early in the week, Messrs. Dumont and Barrett, who were in the classified service, were called upon to show cause why they should not be dismissed. Their answers were received to-day. All that Secretary Metcalf could be induced to say on the subject was that the replies were unsatisfactory.

The dismissal of Dumont and Barrett was practically decided upon when the Slocum report was placed in the hands of the President. The action of Secretary Metcalf in calling upon the inspectors to show cause was merely perfunctory, but it was necessary under the civil service rule which requires that classified employees shall not be removed without having opportunity to answer charges that may be made against them.

The officers of the Department say that everything has now been done within the power of the Federal authorities to punish those who were responsible for the Slocum disaster. The inquiry of the Government was to ascertain how much the neglect of Federal officers had to do indirectly with the disaster. Rodie, Dumont and Barrett are now out of office. Whether the axe will fall in other quarters cannot be learned. The next step of the Department of Commerce will be to draft a bill, which will be submitted to Congress, containing drastic provisions relative to the installation of safety appliances in steam vessels.

200 WOMEN IN FIRE PANIC.

Blaze in Williamsburg Factory Hemmed Them In on Upper Floors—None Hurt.

Fire in the basement of the leather factory of W. H. Robinson at 137 to 141 North Tenth street, Williamsburg, yesterday afternoon, caused a panic among more than 200 young women employed in the building, a large six-story brick structure. Besides the basement, Robinson occupied the first floor while the firm of Kattenbach & Stevens, silk ribbon manufacturers, had the second and third floors and a picture frame manufacturer the upper part.

There were seventy girls working in the basement when the fire started, and it spread so rapidly that the girls had to escape by the stairway was cut off. A public encasement and a rush was made for the fire escapes. These were quickly crowded and girls fought to reach windows and were rescued by firemen.

Ladders were placed against a two-story building occupied by Robinson as an office, and from the roof of this building the firemen caught many of the women as they jumped from the fire escapes. None of the women was injured, but a dozen fainting after being rescued.

The damage by fire was placed at \$50,000.

COLUMBIA-PENNSYLVANIA SPECIAL TRAIN.

Saturday, October 22. Leave West 23rd Street, via Pennsylvania Railroad, 10:24 A. M. Return via same route. Only \$2.50 to Philadelphia and return on special train.—Ad.

Roosevelt Panama Letter.

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BIG DEAL IN HARLEM LOTS.

Negotiations On for the Sale of a \$1,500,000 Parcel on Washington Heights.

The valuable Donnelly tract, consisting of nearly three blocks, and worth upward of \$1,500,000, is now to be the first large vacant lot holding on Washington Heights sold this year. Negotiations for its purchase by Henry Morgenthau, of the Central Realty Bond and Trust Company, and Max Marx have virtually been closed, although it is understood that the actual contract of sale has not yet been signed.

It is said on good authority that an oral agreement as to terms has been reached. The property belongs to Charles T. Barney, who has held it about ten years. It consists of 170 lots in the blocks bounded by Broadway, Amsterdam avenue and 133d and 139th streets. The deal is especially interesting because the extraordinary vacant land speculation along the line of the subway which developed several weeks ago until now shown little tendency to spread to Washington Heights. It has affected principally the comparatively cheap land in the Dyckman and upper Lenox avenue districts and in the Bronx. The Donnelly tract, especially the Broadway and Amsterdam avenue fronts, is regarded as suitable for improvement with a good grade of apartment houses. The bulk of the recent trading has been in tenement and flat house sales. Yesterday's dealings in the latter class of realty comprised about 250 lots.

\$43,560 TO THE REV. E. JUDSON.

Bequest to the Pastor of the Baptist Memorial Church of This City.

Congress, N. Y., Oct. 20.—By the will of Miss Dolphina Antidell of Rosemont, this county, the Rev. Edward Judson, pastor of the Baptist Memorial Church of Christ in New York City, receives property amounting to \$43,560. When Mr. Judson presented the will for probate here, he being named as executor, Albert Antidell of Chicago, superintendent of the Western division of the United States Express Company, was present to contest the will. Judge Lynn J. Arnold of this village is his counsel. The litigation involves about \$70,000.

Miss Antidell, a maiden lady of 56 years, died in August, leaving to relatives \$1,000 only. One relative was an aunt. Several cousins were cut off without a cent, the contestant being one of them. Miss Antidell has always been deeply interested in Baptist Church affairs. This is evident from her bequests. For besides the large amount for Mr. Judson she left \$3,000 to Miss Antoinette Judson of New York, \$5,000 to the American Baptist Missionary Union of Boston, \$2,500 to the American Baptist Publication Society of Philadelphia, \$2,000 to the Woman's Baptist Missionary Society of Boston, and \$7,000 to the Baptist Educational Society of New York.

RUSH FOR MCCARREN'S BET.

But It Was "Taken" Already—\$1,000 Even Bet on Higgins.

The announcement in THE SUN yesterday morning that Senator McCarrren was anxious to place \$6,000 against \$10,000 on the prospect of Parker carrying the State in the election, the Brooklyn statesman, Mr. Woodruff said that it was too bad that Senator McCarrren should keep the money out of the State, and that he would be glad to see it put to use in the State.

When Senator McCarrren was told about Mr. Woodruff's statement, he remarked: "The bet I offered has been already taken, and if I had the cash I would bet a million on Judge Parker's chances."

Who took the bet is the State Senator's secret. Charles H. Marshall, a broker at 2 Wall street, tried to get it and couldn't. He says he has \$4,100 to bet at even money on Roosevelt carrying New York by 30,000; \$10,000 to bet against \$3,500 that Roosevelt will be elected, and \$6,000 to bet against \$8,000 that Roosevelt will carry New York. He has \$14,000 to cover any proposition that Senator McCarrren desires to make, he says.

In the broad street curb market yesterday the odds remained at 4 to 1 on Roosevelt, but there was a much larger quantity of Parker money offering, and in some cases the Roosevelt men were holding off for 10 to 3. Batcheller & Adee bet \$4,000 to \$10,000 on Parker, the Roosevelt bet being taken by Wasserman Bros., Wertheim & Brown, Allen & Co., and Bunnell & Buchanan. The latter three bet that Parker would be elected against \$12,000 put up by various other brokers.

A bet of \$1,000 even that Higgins would be the successful candidate was made by Bunnell & Buchanan with J. L. McCormack.

YOUNG DURVEY COUPLE HAPPY.

Court Sets Aside Marriage Annulment Which Bridegroom's Mother Obtained.

Supreme Court Justice Wilmet M. Smith in Brooklyn yesterday set aside the annulment of the marriage of Harold Durvey and Elizabeth Grennan, which was granted to the mother of young Durvey about a year ago.

Young Durvey married against his mother's will and Mrs. Durvey forbade her son, who was not yet 21 years old, to live with his young wife, who is several years his junior and the daughter of a laborer. Durvey was 17 years old when he married, and the mother secured an annulment. The young couple chose to live together, however, despite the ruling of the courts.

The case was brought before the aid of the police courts. She was beaten by the young people, who moved about from place to place and refused positively to be separated.

Yesterday they were once more permitted to go to their home at 93 Cumberland street, this time with the sanction of the courts. Young Durvey is a clerk, earning a modest salary. He and his wife were in court yesterday when the decision was handed down and left smiling, after thanking Justice Smith.

OVERDUE SPANISH BOAT.

Buenos Aires, From New York for Havana, Eight Days Out.

The Spanish Line steamship Buenos Aires, which sailed hence for Havana and Mexico on Oct. 13, and doubtless was caught in the cyclone that swept across the Gulf of Mexico and Florida last week, has not reached Havana. She carries 201 passengers, chiefly Spaniards, including several bull-fighters, who are bound to appear in the ring in the City of Mexico. Her agents are not worried about her. It is likely, they surmise, that she is either proceeding slowly, or has had trouble with her machinery, caused by heavy weather. She is a British built single screw of 5,322 tons, and makes Havana from this port in pleasant weather in five days. She is now eight days out.

MARX GUILTY OF MURDER.

Aged Farmer Convicted of Killing a Farm-hand He Employed.

NEW LONDON, Conn., Oct. 20.—The jury in the Gershon Marx trial this afternoon rendered a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. The verdict was a surprise generally.

Marx, who is an aged farmer of Colchester, was charged with murdering and burning his farm hand, Pavel Rodock, on March 26. The testimony was purely circumstantial and it was generally thought that Marx would escape the noose.

When Marx heard the verdict he collapsed. Judge Case will pass sentence upon him at 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

Register To-day.

There are only to-day and to-morrow left to register in, and to-morrow morning may interfere. Get it done to-day.

O. & W. GOES TO THE NEW HAVEN.

VERY DEFINITE STATEMENTS THAT CONTROL WILL PASS.

Stock Passes 40 on the News—Transfer Will Give the New Haven Valuable Coal Properties and a Direct Route Into the Pennsylvania Coal Regions.

While neither President Charles S. Mellen of the New Haven nor Thomas P. Fowler of the Ontario and Western would admit it yesterday, Wall Street believes that the four point advance in the stock of the Ontario and Western railroad on the Stock Exchange yesterday was due to the fact that negotiations are practically completed for the taking over of the Ontario and Western by the New Haven road. There had been a report, owing to the prominence of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., who are understood to control the Ontario and Western, in Pennsylvania affairs, that the Pennsylvania was to become the purchaser, but the buyer is understood to be the New Haven.

A report to this effect has been about in the financial district for some days and has explained the recent advances in Ontario and Western stock from 33 to 40½, which price it touched yesterday. The stock went to 40 on the understanding that it would be taken over at this figure by the New Haven, although one report had it that control would be secured through a lease on a 3 per cent. basis.

President Fowler, when asked to confirm the report yesterday, said: "I can't say anything about it because I don't know anything about it. I have no information on the subject."

In New Haven yesterday President Mellen used very nearly the same language in discussing the report, replying to a query: "I have no information on the subject whatever, and as a result I am unable to make any statement."

It was learned definitely, however, in spite of these evasive answers, that negotiations for the sale of the control of the Ontario and Western are under way and that a statement regarding the status of the transaction will be made within a few days.

The stock of the Ontario and Western has risen steadily since comment in Wall Street of late owing to the campaign by the road's stockholders to secure the dissolution of the voting trust. In the course of this campaign the stock went from 19 to about 34, and at the recent meeting of the stockholders the objections to the voting trust were met through arrangements for a 3 per cent. dividend on the stock, which dissolved the trust, and a proposition for a bond issue, which was submitted to the stockholders on Nov. 9 next. The stockholders' committee, of which James B. Clews is chairman, issued circulars yesterday advising stockholders to give their proxies to the management for the meeting on Nov. 9.

In the course of the stockholders' campaign it was understood in Wall Street that it was close to the company, represented by the banking house of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., had secured control of several hundred thousand shares of the stock for voting purposes, and it is this stock and control which will be sold.

The New Haven will secure in the New York and Western, whose capital stock is \$58,000,000, a direct route into the coal regions of Pennsylvania and valuable coal properties. The New Haven recently purchased the Central New England Railroad, which runs from Springfield, Mass., to Campbell Hall, N. Y., over the Poughkeepsie Bridge, which it controls, and by this means it can effect a connection with the Ontario and Western.

SHAKE-UP IN CITY POST OFFICE.

Changes in the Personnel and in Methods of Handling Mail Contemplated.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—A searching investigation of the New York Post Office will be begun within the next month or two. F. Norton Goddard of New York was in Washington yesterday and had a long talk with the President and also with the Postmaster-General. His visit was a means of revealing the fact that the President has been considering the necessity of bringing about radical reforms in the postal service in New York.

The details of the plan of investigation have not yet been worked out, and no official announcement has yet been made. It is known, however, that the proposition is to bring about not only necessary changes in the personnel of the Post Office force in New York, but to accomplish radical reforms in the methods of handling mail, and in general to improve the system along approved lines.

There are many who believe that the postal service in New York is far from being a credit to the greatest city on the continent, or to a country where the transmission of the mails forms a greater business enterprise than anywhere else in the world. The investigation